

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (currently amended). An arrangement for the insertion into the body, through the skin, of a catheter with a proximal base, where this arrangement includes a needle which has a puncture end and a cage, which extends the base in the proximal direction, where this ~~chamber-cage~~ forms a chamber through which the needle slides from a proximal entrance to an opposite distal exit and is equipped with a sprung flexible steel blade to hold the puncture end of the needle in the chamber when the needle is withdrawn from the cannula, wherein this blade is positioned across the chamber close to the proximal entrance of the chamber perpendicular to the needle and traversed by the needle, where the blade and the needle include resources that combine so that the blade is at rest and traversed freely by the needle when the needle is pushed in the distal direction, and so that the blade stops the needle and is bent by the needle when the needle is drawn in the proximal direction beyond a given axial position, so that the bent blade inclines the needle and applies a return force to the needle which tends to force the needle back in the distal direction until the puncture end comes up against a wall of the chamber.

2 (previously presented). An arrangement according to claim 1 in which the flexible blade has a perforation for the passage of the needle, and ahead of the said perforation, the needle has its

section modified locally so that this section is stopped by the perforation in the blade during the withdrawal movement of the needle in the proximal direction, this modified section being located at a distance from the puncture end of the needle so that the contact of the modified section with the perforation in the blade occurs after this end has arrived in the chamber during the operation for removal of the needle.

3 (previously presented). An arrangement according to claim 1, in which the chamber has an end wall in the distal direction which includes a groove into which the puncture end of the inclined needle enters.

4 (previously presented). An arrangement according to claim 1, in which the flexible blade constitutes a branch of a blade shaped as an L, and which has a longitudinal branch fixed to a longitudinal wall of the chamber and a transverse branch which constitutes the flexible blade equipped with a perforation for the passage of the needle.

5 (previously presented). An arrangement according to claim 1, in which the flexible blade is shaped as a U, constituting a first rear transverse branch located at the entrance of the chamber, and equipped with a perforation for the passage of the needle, and a second front transverse branch parallel to the first branch, located in the said chamber and equipped with a perforation for the passage of the needle, where the perforation of the rear branch is not sufficiently large to allow passage of the modified section of

the needle, but the perforation of the front branch is able to allow this section to pass.

6 (previously presented). An arrangement according to claim 5, in which the catheter base has an external rim and the cage includes a mobile lever which has a stop dog locked to this rim in one position of the lever, and in which the second branch of the flexible blade is continued by a third branch more or less at the bracket of the second branch, and which operates the said lever to release the dog.

7 (previously presented). An arrangement according to claim 1, in which, ahead of the chamber, the cage includes a nose which slots into the catheter base and which is traversed longitudinally by an aperture for the passage of the needle.

8 (previously presented). An arrangement according to claim 1, in which the needle is equipped with a base, and in which the cage includes a transverse plate projecting laterally, against which presses one wall of the base of the needle when the needle is in its working position.

9 (previously presented). An arrangement according to claim 8, in which the said blade is suspended from the said plate of the cage.

10 (previously presented). An arrangement according to claim 1, in which the needle includes a base bearing against the flexible blade when the needle is in its working position.

11 (previously presented). An arrangement according to claim 1, wherein said catheter is a short catheter and said arrangement is adapted for the insertion of said short catheter into a vein.